

Application No. 10/091,373
Amendment dated September 24, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 24, 2004

Atty Dkt No. ARC920010125US1

REMARKS

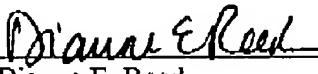
In the Office Action under reply, the first Action on the merits herein, claims 1-31 have been examined. Claims 1, 16-19, and 29-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Klimova et al., while the remaining claims have either been allowed (claims 23-28) or indicated as allowable but for their dependence on a rejected base claim (claims 2-15 and 20-22).

As indicated in the Listing of the Claims, claim 1 has been amended and the remaining claims are unchanged. Claim 1 now specifies that at least one of the first monomer and the second monomer contain one or more fluorine atoms, such that the copolymer prepared is a fluorinated copolymer. As indicated in the specification, those copolymers of the invention that are fluorinated are particularly suitable for 157 nm resist applications. This amendment is made without prejudice, without intent to abandon any originally claimed subject matter, and without intent to acquiesce in the rejection.

Klimova et al. discloses preparation of a copolymer from methacrylic acid and 1,3-dioxol-2-one, but does not disclose copolymerization reactions involving a fluorinated monomer, and do not, therefore, disclose any fluorinated polymers or copolymers. Accordingly, withdrawal of the anticipation rejection is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this communication, she is welcome to contact the undersigned attorney at 650-330-0350.

Respectfully submitted,


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